

Message Text

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SUBJ: CCMS-FALL 1976 PLENARY-DISPOSAL OF HAZARDOUS WASTE

PILOT STUDY

SUMMARY: THE FRG, AS PILOT COUNTRY, PRESENTED THE
STATUS REPORT ON THE SIX PROJECTS OF THE HAZARDOUS
WASTE STUDY:

- A) LANDFILL DISPOSAL
- B) UNDERGROUND (MINE) DISPOSAL
- C) ORGANIZATION OF HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL
- D) TRANSPORTATION
- E) MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES
- F) CHROME CYCLE

THE LAST MEETING OF THE PILOT STUDY WAS HELD IN BONN,
MAY 13, 1976. DRAFT REPORTS ON ALL SIX PROJECTS
WILL BE READY BY THE END OF THIS YEAR AND THE FINAL
REPORT WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE FALL 1977 PLENARY. THE
US INVITED THE ALLIES TO ATTEND THE NEXT PILOT STUDY
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MEETING IN WASHINGTON, MAY 9-13, 1977, AND PROPOSED
THAT THE COMPLEXITY OF THE HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL
PEROBLEM MERITED EXTENSION OF THE PILOT STUDY INTO NEW
AREAS, AS WAS DONE PREVIOUSLY WITH AIR POLLUTION, AFTER

SUBMISSION OF ITS FINAL REPORT IN FALL, 1975. NORWAY JOINED THE US IN SUPPORTING THIS PROPOSED EXTENSION, WHICH WILL BE DISCUSSED AT THE 1977 SPRING PLENARY IN DUSSELDORF. END SUMMARY.

1. THE FRG (WOLBECK) OUTLINED THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PILOT STUDY, WHICH IS BASED ON RECOGNITION OF THE NEED FOR A COMPREHENSIVE HAZARDOUS WASTE STRATEGY. THE HAZARDOUS WASTE PROBLEM ENCOMPASSES ALL PHASES FROM THE SOURCE OF THE WASTE TO ITS TRANSPORTATION, TEMPORARY STORAGE, AND FINAL DISPOSAL. THESE PHASES MUST BE VIEWED IN THEIR TOTALITY. THE FRG COMMENDED LEADERS OF THE VARIOUS PROJECTS FOR THE ACTIVE LEADERSHIP THEY ARE PROVIDING. THE UK HAS ISSUED TWO INTERIM PROGRESS REPORTS ON BOTH ITS LANDFILL RESEARCH PROGRAMS AND PRACTICE, AND THE FINAL REPORT IS UNDERWAY. BELGIUM AND FRANCE ARE PREPARING REPORTS ON UNDERGROUND DISPOSAL AND THE CHROME CYCLE, RESPECTIVELY. THE TRANSPORTATION PROJECT (US) IS EVALUATING THE UN LIST OF HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS, WITH THE VIEW OF RECOMMENDING BOTH ADDITIONS TO THE LIST AND NEW HANDLING PROCEDURES. THE US IS ALSO LEADING THE MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES PROJECT, WHICH WILL REPORT ON ALL ASPECTS OF HANDLING, LABELING, SITE SELECTION, AND RETRIEVAL, BASED ON INPUTS FROM THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES.

2. FRANCE (FESQUET) REPORTED THAT THE CHROME CYCLE PROJECT WAS CONSIDERING BOTH AIR, GROUND, AND WATER ASPECTS OF THE CHROME CYCLE POLLUTION PROBLEM. THE PROBLEM IS, HOWEVER, DEPENDENT ON SPECIFIC GEOGRAPHIC CONDITIONS AND INDUSTRIAL PROCESSES. IT IS DIFFICULT TO RECOMMEND GLOBAL OR REGIONAL SOLUTIONS. FRANCE HAS DISTRIBUTED A QUESTIONNAIRE, FROM WHICH IT HOPES TO RECEIVE RESPONSES BY MID-1977. IT WOULD LIKE TO SEE COMPLEMENTARY STUDIES ON THE CHROME CYCLE DONE ELSEWHERE.
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3. BELGIUM (RONSE) CONFIRMED THAT THE DRAFT REPORT ON UNDERGROUND (MINE) DISPOSAL IS EXPECTED IN NOVEMBER.

4. THE US (TRAIN) STRESSED THE ACUTE AND LONG-TERM EFFECTS OF CHEMICAL WASTES. IT NOTED THE ACTIVE INTEREST OF OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THIS PROBLEM. AS EVIDENCED BY EC AND OECD PARTICIPATION IN THE BONN PILOT STUDY MTG LAST MAY. SEVEN COUNTRIES HAVE ENACTED LEGISLATION RECENTLY ON CONTROL OF HAZARDOUS WASTES, WHILE OTHERS HAVE LEGISLATION PENDING. DUE TO THE SERIOUSNESS AND COMPLEXITY OF THE PROBLEM, THE US SUGGESTS EXTENSION OF THIS PILOT STUDY INTO A SECOND PHASE TO DEAL WITH PROMISING HAZARDOUS WASTE

MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS, SUCH AS HIGH TEMPERATURE INCINERATION AND CHEMICAL TREATMENT NOT WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE CURRENT STUDY. FINALLY, THE US INVITED THE ALLIES TO ATTEND THE NEXT PILOT STUDY MGT IN WASHINGTON, MAY 9-13, 1977.

5. NORWAY (LYKKE) EXPRESSED ITS SUPPORT FOR EXTENSION OF THIS STUDY. RELIANCE ON LINDFILL DISPOSAL, WHICH IS CURRENTLY THE GENERAL PRACTICE, MUST BE REGARDED AS AN INTERMEDIATE METHOD. IF NOT, IT COULD, IN THE LONG RUN, HAVE SEVERAL SERIOUS REPERCUSSIONS. THESE INCLUDE DIMINISHED RESPONSIVENESS FROM INDUSTRY TO DEVELOPMENT OF NEW TREATMENT METHODS, THE REQUIREMENT FOR CONSTANT CONTROL AND SUPERVISION OF THE WASTES, BOTH TECHNICALLY AND POLITICALLY. METHODS OF HAZARDOUS WASTE TREATMENT, INCLUDING RE-USE, WOULD BE MOST APPROPRIATE TOPICS FOR A SECON PILT STUDY.

6. IT WAS AGREED THAT DISCUSSION OF THIS SUGGESTION TO EXTEND TTHE HAZARDOUS WASTE STUDY WOULD TAKE PLACE AT THE 1977 SPRING PLENARY, IN DUSSELDORF.STREATOR

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